

## **NEWS FROM NOAA**

## NATIONAL OCEANIC & ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION ● US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Contacts: Jim Milbury (562) 980–4006 or cell (310) 245-7114

Craig Heberer (760) 431–9440, ext. 303 or cell (760) 805-5984

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## Federal and State Agencies Provide Public Meetings on Highly Migratory Species Fishery Management Plan

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, in collaboration with the Pacific Fishery Management Council, will hold a series of public meetings to discuss topics important to commercial and recreational fishermen of Highly Migratory Species (HMS) such as tunas, sharks and billfish. The meetings will highlight the current status of domestic and international HMS activities along with the rules and regulations of the federal Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for U.S. fishing vessels targeting HMS off the coast of California, Oregon and Washington.

## Topics to be discussed include the following:

- 2006 north Pacific albacore season summary and stock status
- U.S.-Canada Albacore Treaty with update on 2007 management measures
- HMS FMP regulations (logbooks, vessel markings, observers, HMS permits, exempted fishing permits)
- Preliminary albacore tagging results and future plans
- Sea lion interactions and non-lethal deterrence methods

The meetings will be held at the date and locations listed below

Date/Time	Location
March 20,	Golden Gate Fishermen's Association Annual Meeting at the Marin Rod and
7 p.m.	Gun Club, 2675 Francisco Blvd. E, San Rafael, CA, 94901.
March 21,	Allan Knight Maritime Museum, Waterfront Community Center, 550 Calle
7 p.m.	Principal, Monterey, CA, 93942.
March 26,	Hotel Chateau, 710 Hancock, Westport, WA, 98595.
6 p.m.	
March 30	Morro Bay Veterans Hall, 209 Surf St., Morro Bay, CA, 93442.
6:30 p.m.	

For more information on the FMP please visit the NMFS Southwest Region website at: <a href="http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/">http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/</a> or the Pacific Fisheries Management Council web site at: <a href="http://www.pcouncil.org/hms/hmsback.html">http://www.pcouncil.org/hms/hmsback.html</a>